



sus, being a Jew, should ask water of her, who was a Samaritan. There was also a quarrel between their scruples; the Jews insisting to this day, that the water of the well of Jesus concerned them, relating to these two Samaritans, Ebal and Gerizim, in their own sacred copy of the books of Moses; and the Samaritans insisting, of course, that the water of the well did not concern them.

From my early youth, I had always taken a strong interest in this old quarter, feeling sympathy with both parties, and sympathizing in their mutual aversion to the ways of Jesus concerning it. What a truth it was for both parties to know, that God was now to be worshipped everywhere; and that all places were henceforth to be regarded as equal before the eyes of the world.

*Correspondents* must give way again. Next week we shall have more news. It is with regret that we again lay over Mr. Fee's letter, and the very interesting letter of our Baltimore correspondent. The principal portion of it we intend to insert outside of next week's *Era*, and thus make sure of it.

*Poetry*—We have on hand some of the richest kind.

#### THE WEEK.

Another week has passed, as usual; the topic of debate in the Senate being the Ten Regiments Bill, and in the House, the reference of the Proslavery amendment.

The *Wise of the Senate* seemed to decide to stand on the Ten Regiments Bill, and say all they think of the war, causes, and objects. The debate has dwelt partly, but Southern White have dwelt a wide range, particularly to the annexation of the whole of Mexico. The prospect of the interests of slavery are given out with great frankness, and the most vehement expressions are made to the peculiar prejudices of Southerners.

The present inhabitants of the city hate the Christians as heartily as the old inhabitants used to hate the Jews. The Mohammedans and Moslems are the most bigoted and fanatical, and they would admit neither Jews nor Christians within their gates, till within a few years; when the Government of the country (then Egyptian) came in, and then they had a high opinion of the Christians, and did not believe them to be their equals; but, each had much to plaud on his side. The Jews were bound to keep their race and traditions, and the Christians to practice their faith, that Jehovah would have but one dwelling place; which was their view of their temple. And the Christians were surely right in preferring their cause to that of the Jews. And what a lesson in liberality it was to the Jews, when he gave honor to the Samaritan in the parable, on account of his good works, above those sacred to the Jews, who were the chosen people. Both parties were, of course, wrong in their fires anger; but each had much to plaud on his side.

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Such was always my view of the matter; and, still being my view, it was the view of the majority of the people here, upon Mount Gerizim, and remembered that somewhere in the city we were approaching was treasured that sacred copy of the Samaritan Pentateuch (Books of Moses) which was written in Hebrew, and dated 1200 A.D., and to be 3,000 years old. The most learned men among the Christians do not believe it to be nearly so old; that they may have a high opinion of the Christians, and did not believe them to be their equals; but, each had much to plaud on his side. I believe, excepting instances where the disputed texts about Ebal and Gerizim are concerned.

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The simple proposition is, that the Government of the United States has sovereignty over the Territories of the United States. This is an intelligible, obviously reasonable proposition. If this cannot be affirmed of the Government, nothing can be affirmed of it. The power to acquire territory under the Constitution cannot, we presume, be denied; but it has been exercised so often without arraignment by the people, that it is idle to question its exercise. This being conceded, we can proceed, and discuss of our object acquired, as a necessary incident—so necessary to the effectuation of the power to acquire. For, what were this power, did territory become independent of the Government on the moment of its acquisition? Is it conceivable that the right to dispose of, and control it, is not inherent in the Government? Yet General Cass asserted the right of the Senate to control it.

The position of the annexation of the whole of Mexico is regarded as a most formidable Anti-Slavery measure. One by one, the Whig members seem to be recovering spirit, and it is not improbable that there may be so strong a vote against the bill in the Senate, on its final passage, as will embolden the Whig majority in the House to a strenuous and strenuous opposition.

Several attempts have been made in the House to close the debate on the President's message, but every member's delay is deemed by the Whigs a victory. They assume, we suppose, that prolonged discussion would be a public mind to that there may be so strong a vote against the bill in the Senate, on its final passage, as will embolden the Whig majority in the House to a strenuous and strenuous opposition.

A question of privilege has sprung up between the House and the President, of which the reader will find both sides presented in our Congressional report.

The subject was to come up for consideration last Tuesday, but no disposition is yet made to bring it up. The President has the right to withhold information, the disclosure of which he deems incompatible with the public interest. In the exercise of this right, he may be influenced by insufficient or不足以 reason, but how is this to be proved? The evidence he deems improper, and how can the publication he deems improper, and how can the House compel him to produce these?

The ordinary routine of business was greatly disturbed by the President's message, and by the speech of Mr. Gibbons, concluding statements which were the expression of every generous heart. We refer the reader to our report of proceedings. It was a case that appealed directly to the humanity of Congress, but the slaveholding members, assisted by a few Northerners, men with slaveholding principles, succeeded in stalling all inquiry by a small majority. There were but seventeen members from the free States who voted to lay the resolution of inquiry upon the table, and these we regard as weak, and the table, as it stands, is a mere mockery.

Monstrous as is this proposition, there is reason to fear that it has been adopted, incidentally, it is hoped, by a number of Southerners, and that sleepless vigilance to its rights, and see that they are not sacrificed to party and to Presidents making.

As for the General—He may borrow the language of the distinguished statesman, who has laid down his claim of independence, and exclude a Whig from them, shall I go?"

The position of the slaveholding class is boldly assumed. The Territories are the common property of the Union in their character of Confederate States—that is, the property of the United States; for the States retain but two characters that of States, each independent and sovereign for certain purposes and of each territory, even when it is a part of a State, is the property of the individual owners. Yet General Cass asserts for the inhabitants of the Territory consisting of Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin, that they are a power to be reckoned with, and that they are to all intents and purposes a state.

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The report of proceedings shows that Mr. Wick, of Indiana, and Mr. Vinton, of Ohio, were in their places when, just before the vote, the friends of Mr. Vinton, and the friends of Mr. Wick, voted to adjourn the session, in order to get off this important question by motion (not in order) to go into Committee of the Whole.

We cannot believe that all the Southern members regarded the outrage brought to their notice by the resolution with indifference. Certainly they cannot love humanity. But their settled policy is to prevent the power of Congress from exercising, in any case whatsoever, towering slavery, lest the system existing in the territories should be established, like the one in the north.

But what pleasure can the western citizens of Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois, set up for their conduct on this question? We can see nothing in their vote but evidence of rocklike humanity. Even Mr. Sawyer, of Ohio, and we particularize this fact, because he distinguished himself by his opposition to the Wilmot Proviso—voted against laying this resolution on the table.

Meantime, we rejoice to learn that an injunction has been obtained, and the cruel act meditated by the owner has thus been at least delayed.

"We learn that Messrs. Nes and Lovell, of the second motion, they reversed their vote—and that Mrs. Vinton, with Mr. Taylor, of Ohio, left their seats before the last vote,—and that Mr. Andrew Stewart, of Pennsylvania, who has been mentioned as a candidate for the Vice Presidency on the same ticket with General Taylor, refused to vote for you or me. It is well for the People to note these things."

Watch, brethren! Watch and pray! In our days of guilt and crime, We should find the sun's departing ray Till the morning comes again. And our toils of manly wile and wild fire, O'er shadowy glen and moonlight lea.

We watch'd, but did not pray: Our songs were low, and dirges died, For the fallen, and their sad, dire strength, In those dark and fearful days.

And deep the twining fates bed The bounding heart and soaring mind. Watch, brethren! Watch and pray! For the fallen hero, fair and bright, When the paring Year her drape shall sing, And fold her faint and weary wing, And lay her down to die.

Know the onward now, and pray, While the lingering moments pass away.

Nay, ist there none? Watch, brethren! Watch and pray!

With higher, hoarser power; And pierce the vaulted arches of heaven, In the solemn midnight hour!

The trumpet of alarm and praise, To God, our Saviour, we now call. Watch, brethren, watch and pray, Till the morning shall dawn spring; For the new-born Year hath come, On strong and powerful wing!

Watch, brethren, watch and pray, Till the Year of life shall pass away!

DERBY, CONN., December 31, 1847.

A HAPPY ALLIANCE.—The Boston *Transcript*, the other night, published a passage of Mr. Sumner's beautiful speech, in connection with Mr. Quincy's vote on the licensing laws, was felt to have a wider application.

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